

## Sacraments



### First Penance

First Penance takes place in second grade. Parents attend a **Parent Workshop** to help them prepare their children for the sacrament. Students are prepared at home and their lessons are reinforced in their faith formation sessions. The students and their families come together at the **First Penance Mass of Enrollment**. The sacrament of First Penance is celebrated in the spring of second grade.



### First Communion

First Communion takes place in third grade. In late January and early February, Parents attend one of two **Parent Workshops** offered to help them prepare their children for this sacrament. Students and their families come

together at the **Mass of Enrollment** in February. Students are prepared at home and their lessons are reinforced in their faith formation sessions. In May, final preparations are made and the children go through a rehearsal during the **First Communion Retreat**; then, on the Saturday before Mother's Days, the Sacrament of First Communion is celebrated!

### Confirmation

Confirmation typically takes place during the spring of Grade 10. Preparation involves religious instruction in Grade 9 (Level I) and Grade 10 (Level II).

Sacramental preparation (including retreat) occurs throughout the Level II year. For both public and Catholic high school students, Level I focuses on Apostolic works and service. Level II focuses on spiritual growth. A parent meeting is given at the end of the candidate's eighth grade year to fully explain the sacramental program.



## Catholic High School Students

Confirmation typically takes place during the spring of Grade 10. Preparation involves religious instruction in Grade 9 (Level I) and Grade 10 (Level II). Sacramental preparation (including retreat) occurs throughout the Level II year. For both public and Catholic high school students, Level I focuses on Apostolic works and service. Level II focuses on spiritual growth. A parent meeting is given at the end of the candidate's eighth grade year to fully explain the sacramental program.

 **St. Gregory the Great**  
FAMILY FAITH FORMATION  
250 St. Gregory Court, Williamsville, NY 14221

## Family Faith Formation

*is Religious Education and Preparation for Sacraments so children can learn the truths of our Catholic Faith and become living disciples of Christ.*



[www.stgregs.org/familyfaithformation](http://www.stgregs.org/familyfaithformation)

 St. Gregory the Great Family Faith Formation

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## Family Faith Formation (FFF) Programs for Public School Students

Families have a choice to register for classes that meet weekly, monthly or in the summer:



[www.stgregs.org/familyfaithformation](http://www.stgregs.org/familyfaithformation)

### Weekly Programs

Classes meet weekly from September - April.

#### Little Cherubs

*(Pre School, Ages 3 and 4)*

Saturdays, 9:00 am - 10:30 am

#### Grades 5 - 8

Mondays, 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm

Saturdays, 9:00 am - 10:30 am

#### Grades K-4

*(Choose one)*

Mondays, 4:30 pm - 5:45 pm

Saturdays, 9:00 am - 10:30 am

#### Grades 9 & 10

Mondays, 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm

**Little Cherubs** is a complete Early Childhood faith formation program for children ages 3 and 4. Children learn about God through songs, crafts and stories. The activity-rich student text provides experiences for the child to explore God's Gifts of ourselves, creation, family and church community.

### Weekly FFF Programs for Grades K-10

St. Gregory the Great Family Faith Formation Program affirms that religious education is a continuous, life-long process. We are here to support you in your role as the primary teachers of your children. Students learn in an environment where they experience a sense of community, celebrate the Sacraments and learn the truths of their Catholic Faith. For more details, go to

### Monthly Program\*

#### Generations of Faith (GOF) for Grades K-10

*(Choose ONE of the sessions below)*

Each session meets once a month September - April as follows:

Session A: Sunday morning, 10:30 am - 12:00 noon

Session B: Sunday afternoon, 12:30 pm - 2:00 pm

Session C: Thursday evening, 6:15 pm - 7:45 pm

**Generations of Faith** \* (GOF) involves the whole family (children with parents or grandparents attend monthly) in a parish faith formation setting that equips parents with the knowledge and skills they need for sharing faith at home. This program gives parents the opportunity to learn together with their children by providing activities and resources to help families celebrate our rich Catholic traditions and rituals, learn to pray together, serve others, work for justice, and enrich their relationships as a family.

**Generations of Faith** is an events-centered catechesis; parents and children continue faith sharing at home with lessons to work on together during the other three weeks of the month when GOF doesn't meet. Families participate in monthly Outreach projects.

**\* These programs are available only to registered active St. Gregory the Great Parishioners**

### Summer Programs\*

#### Disciple Camp\* for Grades 5 - 8

Dates: July 15 - 19, 2019

Monday - Friday, 9:00 am - 4:00 pm

#### High School Summer Program\* for Grades 9 & 10

Dates: June 26, 27, 28, July 1 and 2, 2019

Monday - Friday, 9:00 am - 4:00 pm

**Disciple Camp** \* This Summer program has 35 hours of instruction based on the curriculum guidelines for the Diocese of Buffalo. In a summer camp like setting, lessons are enriched with music, prayer, speakers, outside activities, crafts, and more. Lessons are based on an active learning process in which religious knowledge is experience in various ways encompassing all styles of learning. **Disciple Camp** parents are expected to be involved by agreeing to help for at least one activity during the year. **Disciple Camp** students are invited to attend **First Friday Club**, which meets on the first Friday of the month throughout the school year. **First Friday Club** provides a safe, social setting where kids can have fun; activities include: service projects, sports, crafts, music, prayer and spiritual experience that count towards their ministry and service requirements.

**High School Summer Program** (for Gr 9 and 10) This is a week long, high impact high school program that fulfills Family Faith Formation requirements for the year. By combining hand-on activities, speakers, videos, and prayer experiences with small and large group activities, this program connects the Catholic faith to real-life situations and provides the foundation for the Sacrament of Confirmation. Confirmation preparation is separate but concurrent. Students stay involved with our Parish with weekly Mass attendance, service, ministry and Parish Youth activities.

## Vacation Bible School

Dates: July 8 - 12, 2019, Monday - Friday, 9:00 am - 12:00 pm

For children, ages 3 (as of 12.01.18) through Gr 4 (in Sept 2019)

At **VBS**, kids experience the extraordinary love of God in fun and unforgettable ways by visiting various stations. This year's theme is "**Blessings and Promises; Lessons from the Old Testament.**" We start each day with energizing, fun and faith-boosting music! A different Bible Point is reinforced through Bible stories, songs, and hands-on activities. Our week-long camp culminates with a jubilant closing celebration and ice cream social in which students put on a final show for their families.